

Post-Doctoral Fellowship: Proposal Outline

Open Topic	Defined by Applicant (relevant to one of the research themes specified below) and contributing to the general objective of transforming the blue economy for sustainable blue economy and advancing towards a climate neutral ocean economy”
Research Theme(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Climate Impact / carbon footprint of Ireland’s Ocean Economy 2) Coastal Communities and Socio-Cultural Transitions 3) Equity in Access to Shared Marine Spaces 4) Future of Ireland’s Marine-related Cultural and Heritage assets
Background and Rationale	<p>The EU Green Deal sets a clear ambition to decarbonise industrial activity across the EU, reducing and eliminating harmful emissions and protecting natural capital. The transition to a climate-neutral blue economy will require a transformation away from traditional business models and practices to less energy-intensive, more sustainable, and where possible, ‘regenerative’ activities. The future blue economy will be knowledge-based, leveraging the potential of marine technology, data, information and associated digital products and services.</p> <p>Ireland’s National Marine Planning Framework outlines a range of policies aimed at supporting rural and coastal island communities. Specifically, it supports ‘Proposals contributing to access, communications, energy self-sufficiency or sustainability of rural coastal and / or island communities should be supported. Proposals should ideally be inclusive of continual education, skills development and training in marine sectors, thus improving the sustainability, social benefits and economic resilience of rural and island communities.’</p> <p>Our Rural Future, Ireland’s Rural Development Policy, aims to ensure Ireland’s offshore islands and marine and coastal environments continue to support sustainable and vibrant communities. The policy seeks to ensure that coastal communities continue to benefit from the unique attributes of Ireland’s coastline and its natural resources in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>In order to support a sustainable blue economy and understand the dynamics of our marine and coastal economies, there is a need to enhance national capacity and capabilities in (socio-) economics and social studies and generation of evidence required to inform and guide integrated marine & maritime sustainable development policies and planning.</p>

<p>Scope of Research (Scientific/ Technical Challenge)</p>	<p>Applicants can submit a proposal under one of the four research themes specified above, and are guided to the “Research Topics” and “Focus of Funding” sections under the relevant research theme in the National Marine R&I Strategy.</p> <p>Some suggested areas of research are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Impact of Ireland’s Ocean Economy – investigate the impact of ocean and marine economic activity in Ireland in conjunction with its impact on climate through emissions or abatement. • Coastal Communities and Socio-Cultural Transitions – investigate the socio-cultural impacts within coastal communities of transitions caused by either abrupt (Covid-19, Brexit) or more gradual (Climate Change, Changing Economic Activities) factors. • Equity in Access to Shared Marine Spaces – options include examining how marine spaces are accessed by various groups and how equitable is access and if there are barriers to or opportunities to improve equity of access. • Future of Ireland’s Marine-related Cultural and Heritage assets. – In an Irish context, investigate optimum and sustainable methodologies to preserve and ensure enjoyment of marine-related cultural and heritage assets (tangible and intangible) into the future. <p>The fellow should ideally have a primary degree and PhD in social sciences, economics, geography, business or closely related discipline.</p>
<p>Expected Impact(s)</p>	<p>The fellow will engage with relevant national and international networks, and explore opportunities for collaboration and securing further research funding under Horizon Europe and/or other funding programmes.</p> <p>This fellowship will help to build national expertise in this research area.</p> <p>The fellow will produce policy briefs for stakeholders, and publish their research findings as widely as possible through peer-reviewed papers, conference presentations, articles, etc.</p>
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>The fellow will engage with relevant national and international networks, and explore opportunities for collaboration and securing further research funding under Horizon Europe.</p> <p>This fellowship will help to build national expertise in this research area.</p> <p>The fellow will produce policy briefs for stakeholders, and publish their research findings as widely as possible through peer-reviewed papers, conference presentations, articles, etc.</p>

Specific Collaboration	Depends on proposals (noting this is an open topic). Applicants should outline proposed collaboration.
Location of Fellow	Higher Education Institute or Public Research Body (Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland)
Duration and Funding Available	4 years €100,000 per annum (i.e. total €400,000 maximum for duration of four years)
References	<p>Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025: gov.ie - Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 (www.gov.ie)</p> <p>A Green Recovery for the Blue Economy – Transforming the EU's Blue Economy for a Sustainable Future”.</p> <p>National Marine Planning Framework and associated policies: marineplan.ie</p> <p>Climate Action Plan 2021</p> <p>The European Green Deal</p>